1	2	3	4	5	6
Tripura	1,819	2,228	5,267	5,030	5,030
Uttar Pradesh	22,958	22,902	5,997	5,979	5,979
Uttarakhand			18,439	18,411	18,393
West Bengal	5,680	5,690	6,045	6,076	6,079
Andaman & Nicobar	7,486	7,481	6,284	6,174	6,005
Chandigarh	6	6	9	9	9
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	159	159	149	130	130
Daman & Diu	0	0	2	2	2
Lakshadweep	0	0	12	15	15
Pondicherry	0	0	17	17	17
TOTAL:	**372,087**	**382,229**	**395,169**	**388,574**	**387,216**
% of G.A.	11.32%	11.63%	12.02%	11.82%	11.78%

Dense forest cover of the Maharashtra

(area in Km.)

State/UT	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005
Maharashtra	**23,746**	**26,721**	**28,452**	**28,422**	**28,384**
% of G.A.	7.72%	8.68%	9.25%	9.24%	9.22%

Problem of elephants in Orissa

†2677. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether increase in number of elephants in Orissa has compounded people's problems;

(b) earlier and current number of elephants in States;

(c) the reasons for increase in number and whether a large number of elephants enter Orissa from Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) steps being taken by Government to save life and property from elephant riot, and the kind of advice and help being provided to State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) As reported by the State Government estimated population of wild elephants in Orissa has marginally increased to 1862 in the year 2007 as compared to 1841 in the year 2002. As such increase in number of elephants can not be said to be the main reason for the people's problem. Earlier and current estimated number of elephants in other States is annexed, as Statement. (*See* below)

(c) The reason for increase in number is breeding. There is not report of elephants entering Orissa from Andhra Preadesh.

(d) The Elephant Range States are being provided financial and technical support under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Elephant to take preventive steps like deployment of anti depredation squads, creation of physical barriers, improvement of habitats etc.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Earlier and current estimated number of elephents in States

Name of State	No. of elephants	
	2002	2007
West Bengal	328	325-375
Jharkhand	772	624
Orissa	1841	1862
Chhattisgarh	—	122
Uttaranchal	1582	1346
U.P.	85	380
Tamil Nadu	3052	3867
Karnataka	5838	4035
Kerala	3850	6068
Andhra Pradesh	74	28
Maharashtra	—	7

Note: Census Report for the year 2007 from North East States are awaited.

Pollution in Ganga

2678. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Ganga has been captivated in Tehri and Narora and catchment area is gradually shrinking thus causing environment havoc;

(b) whether Government is also aware that polluted water and chemical discharges of sugar factories, chemical factories and distilleries go direct to Kali Nadi in Kannauj, which ultimately go to Ganga in Kannauj itself;

(c) whether tanneries of Kanpur continously pollute the Ganga in Kanpur irrespective of claims that the have been stopped;

(d) if so, whether Central team ever visited the spots of Ganga in Kanpur causing pollution; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and latest efforts made by Government to stop pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As reported by Central Water Commission, a dam has been constructed recently at Tehri on river Bhagirathi, a tributary of Ganga, while the barrage on river Ganga was constructed at Narora, Uttar Pradesh about three decades back. Regulated flow from Tehri dam is released into the river down stream. Creation of storage reservoir upstream of dam does not decrease catchment area because the basin boundaries remain unchanged. On the other hand, construction of barrage does not create any storage